

# **Straight***talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

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September/October 2011

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## Survey Says...

*By Jessica Chamberlain*

I grew up watching “The Family Feud” on TV, and while I don’t think I learned very much from watching that particular show, it may be where my love of surveys comes from. This fall the Northeast Library System is asking you to take a survey about the services that we provide. We want to know what people find the most valuable and what improvements we can make. We’re also asking your opinions about new projects and services that we are considering.

Would you be interested in a Performer Database with information on people who are willing to provide programs to schools and libraries in northeast Nebraska? What about getting help with repairing your CD’s and DVD’s or help with digitizing your local history materials? Let us know what you think!

All librarians and library board members are invited to take our survey. If your library has multiple staff members, each staff member is invited to fill out a separate survey. We used [PollDaddy.com](http://PollDaddy.com) to create our survey and all information collected is anonymous.

Please take a few minutes to complete our 10 question survey. The Northeast Library System appreciates your feedback as we strive to serve the libraries of northeast Nebraska in the best way possible.

[Click here to take our online survey](#)

Thank you!



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Please take note of the many continuing education opportunities listed inside!

Coming up this fall we have our Annual Meeting and Fall Workshop, a TARGET meeting, a Book Repair Workshop and a Youth Services Workshop!

# Northeast News



The Stanton Public Library had its front entrance decorated for the town's summer festival and the theme went well with this year's Summer Reading Program.

Norfolk Public Library hosted their 17th Annual **Literature Festival** on Saturday, July 30th. Authors Sarah Prineas, Jen Bryant, and the U.S. Children's Poet Laureate J. Patrick Lewis all made wonderful presentations. Get out your pencils and mark your calendar for next year's festival on July 28, 2012!

Application forms for the Youth Grants for Excellence are now available! Click [here](#) to learn about criteria, due dates, and eligibility. Applications are due on **September 28, 2011**.



September is Library Card Sign Month! Click on the "Smartest Card" above to visit ALA's website and download some free publicity materials for your library!

## Pat on the Back Awards

Awards were given to **Steve Christensen**, **Bob Rotherham** and **Dale Wilkensen**, all of Neligh, for their combined support to care for the Neligh Public Library's landscaping.

*Please notify the NELS office if you have someone you would like to nominate for a "Pat on the Back!"*

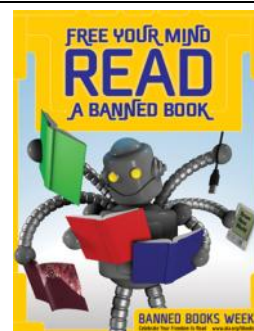


Forty librarians attended the Technology Planning Summer Camp on August 22-23 at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk. Topics covered included E-Rate, Technology Planning, Internet Filtering, CIPA and more.

If you'd like to see the slideshows shared, you can [click here](#).

If you'd like to see more photos from the workshop, you can [check them out on Flickr](#).

Banned Books Week is September 24—October 1, 2011. [Click here](#) to find out how to celebrate your freedom to read by joining in this year's "Virtual Read-Out."



*If you have a piece of news or a photo you'd like to share with your fellow northeast Nebraska libraries, email it to Jessica at the NELS office! [jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com](mailto:jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com)*

# Upcoming Events

*A Calendar of Upcoming Events and links to details and registration forms can be found on our website at: <http://libraries.ne.gov/nels/calendar>*

**September 21—NELS Annual Meeting**—Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk

This year our Annual Meeting will be a combined day-long conference with the Northeast Nebraska Network Consortium for school libraries, which will provide even more training, learning and networking opportunities for northeast Nebraska librarians. See page 7 for complete schedule and registration details.

Time: 9:00—3:30

Contact: Jessica Chamberlain, 800-578-1014 or [jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com](mailto:jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com)

**September 24—Plum Creek Literacy Festival Adult Conference Day**—Concordia University, Seward

The Adult Conference features Dr. Kylene Beers and Dr. Robert Probst.

Visit <http://www.cune.edu/plumcreek> for details and registration.

**October 5—Pre-Conference Workshop**—Cornhusker Marriott, Lincoln

Karen Hyman will present “Shortcuts to Greatness, or 10 Things that Great Libraries Know and Maybe You Don’t.” Register on the NLA/NEMA conference page at:

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/conference2011/home>

**October 6—7—NLA/NEMA Conference**—Cornhusker Marriott, Lincoln

Find out about all the great sessions and speakers coming this year at:

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/conference2011/home>

**October 14—TARGET Meeting**—Lied Pierce Public Library

Topics of discussion will include highlights from the NLA/NEMA Conference, the Geek Your Library Campaign and a round-robin of issues in your library.

Time: 9:00—12:00

Contact: Jessica Chamberlain, 800-578-1014 or [jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com](mailto:jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com)

**October 17—Kapco Book Repair Workshop**—Columbus Public Library

This free workshop will teach you how to prevent and repair damage to your circulating materials. See page 10 for details and registration link.

Time: 1:00—4:00 p.m.

Contact: Jessica Chamberlain, 800-578-1014 or [jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com](mailto:jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com)

**October 25—Youth Services Workshop**—Norfolk Public Library

This fun, interactive workshop will send you home with new ideas for working with kids from Pre-schoolers to Teens. See page 11 for details and registration.

Time: 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Contact: Jessica Chamberlain, 800-578-1014 or [jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com](mailto:jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com)

# Library Leadership Institute Report



During each Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (NLLI), the graduates develop a Vision Statement. Here is this year's **Vision Statement**.

NLLI graduates:

- Strive for personal and professional growth
- Expand the library beyond its walls by collaborating with community organizations
- Transform individuals into informed, active citizens by providing essential tools and relevant information
- Shape and ensure a sustainable, innovative future for our libraries, our communities, and our world.

## Stories from the Leadership Institute

### ***From Odessa Meyer, South Sioux City Public Library***

The Nebraska Library Leadership Institute helped me personally and in turn professionally. I took home with me knowledge, understanding and even self-acceptance and self-worth. The skills I learned I will be able to utilize over the rest of my career. I had a wonderful experience networking with other librarians. Through learning to work in groups with multiple personalities to learning to watch the changes and advancements in the library world and also positioning myself in the community as a leader, the NLLI was a wonderful and extremely beneficial experience for me.

The NLLI helped me to recognize my own personal strengths and weaknesses as a leader and how to lead from where I am and in the position I am in. This conference was beneficial to all aspects of being able to look at and assess the changing environment that library's need to keep up with, how to have a vision and reach it by acting with courage and accepting inevitable changes. Understanding how to promote individual empowerment and encourage others to accept any changes that may come about, knowing that people will support those things they help create. Going into the NLLI I had a misunderstanding that Leadership = Management, I found out that couldn't be further from the truth. Leading is giving input into your organization and having others listen and hear, that having a leadership role can be either "the face" or the "background worker bee"

Every one has their own approach on how to be a leader. After attending this conference I have the capability to recognize mine and now I can start to look upon myself as a leader among my home community and youth I serve everyday.

### ***From Beth Foulks, Ponca Carnegie Library and Ponca Public Schools***

Attending the Library Leadership Institute at the St. Benedict Center in Schuyler was an overall wonderful experience. The setting was peaceful, beautiful, and relaxing. Accommodations were comfortable and the food was plentiful and delicious. The event was well organized and executed and our speakers/mentors were top-notch. But the best part for me was the growing sense of camaraderie as we, the participants, took intentional steps along the continuum to become well-rounded leaders at whatever level we find ourselves. We left the institute, somewhat hesitant to say good-bye, with plenty of information to digest, and a whole list of new friends and contacts to encourage us in our continuing efforts to be effective leaders.

### ***From Beth Kabes, ESU 7***

The week was one of the best experiences I have had. I learned about how I can lead others as well as working with others and build relationships. I am able to take the strategies that I learned at the Institute and use them at work when working in teams and with co-workers. I would highly recommend the Institute.



# Winning Weeders

We had 36 libraries sign up to participate in our first ever “Week of Weeding” Promotion. Of those libraries, 26 returned their entry forms. Those 26 entry forms were entered into a random drawing to win a NOOK Simple Touch e-Reader.



*And the winner is...*

**Madison Public Library! Congratulations!**

All the libraries that participated are winners though! The collected results of the returned entry forms reported over 8,600 unused and outdated materials removed from library shelves. Materials removed included VHS tapes, cassette tapes, old magazines and lots and lots of books.

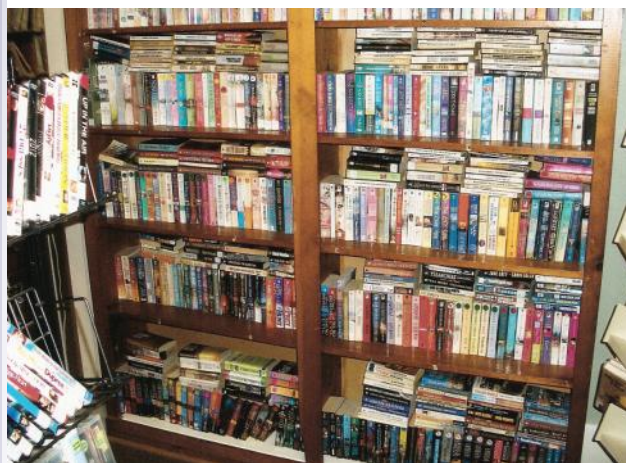
**Here are some of the “Best of the Worst” items weeded:**

- Moldy *Kitchen Klatter* magazines
- *Ideals* magazines from the 1960's
- A book called Our America that talked about the states...all 48 of them
- A series of westerns that hadn't been checked out in 15 years
- Books that hadn't circulated since they were cataloged 10 years ago

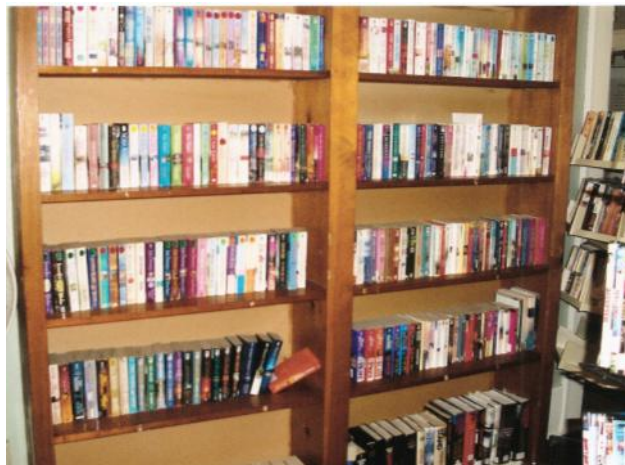
The most common things listed as weeded were items from the 1980's and earlier that were simply outdated, and more than one person lamented getting rid of good books because they had not been read in more than a decade.

**Thank you to everyone who participated!**

**And thanks to everyone who submitted photos showing the results of your weeding!**



Meadow Grove Public Library's paperback section  
**Before**



Meadow Grove Public Library's paperback section  
**After**





Lied Battle Creek Public Library's Western section  
**Before**



Lied Battle Creek Public Library's Western section  
**After**



Stanton Public Library's Fiction section  
**Before**



Stanton Public Library's Fiction section  
**After**



Julie Osnes at the Wayne Public Library holding two of the best books we weeded: one on your future career in space written 25 years ago and one on how pianos are made that was never, ever checked out.



April Stevens at the Osceola Public Library working hard to delete all the weeded books while laughing at the book listing the 48 states.



Carts of weeded books from the  
Madison Public Library



The nice and neat Children's section of the Ponca Carnegie Library after weeding

N O R T H E A S T N E

# Fall Library Workshop

September 21, 2011 - Northeast Community College - Lifelong Learning Center

## Connect to Your Library

Media Workshop for NNNC School Libraries and Northeast Library System

### Schedule of Presentations

September 21, 2011

8:30-9:00 – Registration and Refreshments

9:00-9:20 – Opening remarks from Nebraska's First Lady Sally Ganem

9:20-10:00 – Virtual Tour of the Nebraska Governor's Mansion

[Click here to see complete descriptions of the Breakout Sessions.](#)

10:00-11:00 – Breakout Sessions

Visual Thesaurus, Book Share, Inexpensive & Interesting Displays, Core Print Reference Collections

11:00-12:00 – Breakout Sessions

World Book, Gale/Cengage, Nebraska Connections in Kids Books, Graphic Novels and Reluctant Readers

12:00-2:00 – Lunch – NELS Annual Meeting – Keynote Address by Jeff Barnes "To Live and Die on the Plains"

2:00-3:00 – Breakout Sessions

Visual Thesaurus, World Book, Collections for Your Communities, Reluctant Weeder's Support Group

3:00-3:30 – Table Top Panel, Closing Remarks and Door Prizes

### Keynote Address

## Jeff Barnes

### To Live and Die on the Plains

It wasn't all sunsets and songbirds in crossing the Great Plains. Death was a frequent and indiscriminate fellow traveler on the wagon trails and he took many forms - disease, gunshot, stampedes, nature, accidents, Indian attack and many more.

Author Jeff Barnes presents an interesting look at how you could have "bought the farm" on the Platte River Road, or at least have made a

down payment. Rarely seen historic maps, paintings, photographs and other images are used to tell these tales of tragedy from the pioneers. NOTE: Some of the historic images presented are graphic in nature and may not be appropriate for younger audiences.

#### About the Author

A freelance writer and fifth-generation Nebraskan, Jeff Barnes is a former newspaper reporter and editor, past chairman of the Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission, and former marketing director for the Durham Western Heritage Museum. He traveled more than 13,000 miles in researching and photographing Forts of the Northern Plains, his first book.



Nebraska  
Humanities  
Council

The Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC) provides major funding for this program. The NHC receives support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Nebraska State Legislature, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment and private donations.

### Registration Information

All K-12 School Libraries please register at [www.esu1.org](http://www.esu1.org)

All public, academic and special libraries please [register with NELS here](#).

Please register by September 7, 2011.

Cost: \$20

5.5 CE hours for Public Librarians  
and Board Members



**NLA/NEMA Conference**

**Regional Library Systems' Pre-Conference Workshop**

# Shortcuts to Greatness, or 10 Things that Great Libraries Know and Maybe You Don't Presented by Karen Hyman

What makes a library great? Are there shortcuts to greatness?

This program will include insights on leadership, customer service, and marketing with a strong dose of humor addressing issues that include the following:

- Difficult economic times have made it imperative that libraries demonstrate their value in competition for funding as an investment that pays in dividends to their community.
- Technology has required a wide diversity of services to customer that can be challenging and requires a constant energy to keep up and looking towards the future.
- Evaluation of library services is critical in remaining relevant and examining the role of the library.
- The library needs to be seen as a leadership organization in their communities, not only for their success but for the success of the community as a whole.

**October 5, 2011**

**9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**The Cornhusker Marriott**

**333 South 13th Street**

**Lincoln, Nebraska 68508**

**\$20**

**3 Continuing Education Credits**

Register at the NLA/NEMA Conference Website:

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/conference2011/registration>

This program is funded by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems and a grant from the Nebraska Library Commission and funded in part with state funds allocated through the Nebraska Legislature.



**About Karen Hyman:**

She has worked in public libraries, as a State Library Consultant, and as Executive Director of the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative where she developed services for 600 member libraries. Her chief inspiration is her role as a library user which "clears the vision wonderfully."



NLA/NEMA Annual Conference  
October 5-7, 2011  
Lincoln, NE



Nebraska Libraries have been Cultivating Community Connections for more than a century. Please plan to join us as we celebrate library accomplishments and contributions to our state as well as look to the future with three days of fantastic programming.

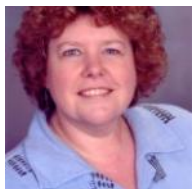
On Wednesday we are offering 4 pre-conferences for attendees to choose from, followed by an evening reception and presentation at the award winning Lincoln High Media Center.

Thursday and Friday will be many fascinating conference sessions, motivating keynote speakers, exhibits, and the opportunity to listen and share experiences with colleagues. Thursday night will be our annual banquet with entertainment followed by a new activity for us, Battledecks.



This year's keynote speakers are Jamie LaRue and Cassandra Barnett.

**Jamie LaRue** has been the director of the Douglas County Libraries, headquartered in Castle Rock, CO, since 1990. He was the Colorado Librarian of the Year in 1998, the Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce's 2003 Business Person of the Year, and in 2007 won the Julie J. Boucher Award for Intellectual Freedom.



**Cassandra Barnett** has been an elementary and secondary school librarian for 33 years, and is currently at Fayetteville High School Library in Fayetteville, Arkansas. As a member of the AASL Standards for Learning Task Force, she helped write the National Standards for the 21st Century Learner, the National Standards for the 21st Century Learner in Action, and The AASL Standards/Common Core Crosswalk document.

Be sure to check out all the great sessions and learn about the keynote speakers, but the most important thing is to [register now!](#)



The Nebraska Regional Library Systems  
are hosting a

*Chocolate Basket Raffle*

You can buy tickets through your System office or at the Nebraska Regional Library System booth at the 2011 NLA/NEMA Conference. Tickets are \$3 each or 2 for \$5. You do not need to be present to win.

This is a partial list of items in the basket:

- Chocolate Wine
- Totally Chocolate Cookbook
- Chocolate Chip Cookie Scented Candle
- Perlier Dark Chocolate Hand Cream
- Chocolate Scented Stamp Pad
- Chocolate Treats Tray
- Chocolate Fondue Set
- Mini Day-to-Day Calendar
- Spicy Hot Chocolate
- Droste Cocoa
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory DVD
- Like Water for Chocolate DVD
- Chocolate Fudge Brownie Coffee

# TARGET



**October 14, 2011**

**Lied Pierce Public Library**

**9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**

**3 hours CE credit**

**FREE**

**Topics of Discussion will include:**

- NLA/NEMA Conference Highlights
  - Geek Your Library Campaign
- Round-Robin on issues in your library

**What is TARGET?**

*TARGET meetings are informal gatherings that occur quarterly and in various locations in Northeast Nebraska. The focus of each gathering will be to keep us informed about issues that affect our libraries and give librarians a chance to share and learn from each other. Any person who is involved with libraries, whether a staff member, board member or volunteer, is welcome to attend.*

## Book Repair Workshop

October 17th, 2011

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m

Columbus Public Library  
2504 14th Street, Columbus  
3 CE Hours                      FREE

This workshop is designed to demonstrate quick and easy techniques for extending shelf life on general circulating materials. Prevention is the key, but we will be addressing specific, common repairs: re-inserting loose pages, broken spines, torn header caps, ripped and torn pages.

**Each participant is asked to bring:**

- one or two paperback books, preferably new or new-like, to demonstrate covering techniques
- a hardbound book with a book jacket to demonstrate application of book jacket covers
- a stapled book or magazine
- one hardbound book that needs repair
- a “naked” hardbound book (i.e. a hardbound book that does NOT have a book jacket cover)

**Each participant will be provided with a free sample packet of materials and someone in attendance will be taking home one of Kapco's Deluxe Paperback Protection Kits (Retail Value \$105)!**

This workshop is provided by:

**Kapco**<sup>®</sup>  
BOOK PROTECTION

We need at least 10 different libraries to register in order to provide this workshop, so please,

[Click here to register!](#)

# Youth Services Workshop

**October 25, 2011**  
**10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**

**Norfolk Public Library**  
400 Prospect Avenue, Norfolk  
**4 hours CE credit**  
**\$10**

- 10-11— Favorite Friends: Programs for Preschoolers  
*Jessica Chamberlain, Northeast Library System*
- 11-12— Meeting the Unique Needs of Teens  
*Rachelle McPhillips, Columbus Public Library*
- 12-1— Lunch & Idea Sharing  
*bring a program idea, favorite new title or  
inspiring resource to share!*
- 1-2— How to Do Book Talks: Quick and Simple  
*Marci Retzlaff and Karen Drevo,  
Norfolk Public Library*
- 2-3— Funky Crafts for Teens and Tweens  
*Callie O'Brien, Schuyler Public Library*
- 

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Columbus, NE 68601

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PH/FAX: 402-564-1586

[jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com](mailto:jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com)

<http://libraries.ne.gov/nels>

**[Click here to register.](#)**

**Please register by October 18.**



## **Northeast Library System Board Meeting Minutes July 20, 2011**

The Northeast Library System Board met on Wednesday, July 20, 2011, at the Newman Grove Public Library, and was hosted by Kathy Strong. The meeting was called to order by President Kate Ostenrude. Members present were Judy Hagan, Michele Hastreiter, Tami Anderson, Melissa Baumert, Jolene Klein, Kathy Ageton, Elaine Tobias, Sally Stahlecker, and Kate Ostenrude. Kathy Ageton moved to approve the alternates: Lauran Lofgren for Susan Tyndall and Dee Johnson for Beth Foulks. (Ageton – 1M/Stahlecker – 2M). Library System Director Jessica Chamberlain and Shelia Cermak, Administrative Assistant, were also present. Joyce Sullivan and Dawnn Tucker were absent.

The location of the Open Meeting Act was given. Dee Johnson moved to approve the minutes. (Johnson – 1M/Hastreiter – 2M). Jessica presented the correspondence, and Shelia Cermak gave the financial report. She reported that the system audit would be in August or September. Lauran Lofgren moved to accept the financial report. (Lofgren – 1M/Tobias – 2M). Roll call vote was all aye. There was no Commissioner or State Advisory Council report. A report was read from Devra Dragos of the Nebraska Library Commission regarding database usage for this year.

Jessica Chamberlain presented her annual report. She visited 69 of 71 public libraries in her first year as system administrator. She noted common concerns from librarians and is planning some strategies to meet those needs. She will be promoting a Weeding Week from August 15-19, with a drawing for a Nook reader for one of the participants. She noted that Youth Services Librarians would like their own workshop, and one is being planned for October 25 at the Norfolk Public Library. She also plans to conduct a poll survey to check interest for a DVD repair machine purchase by the system or for a cooperative buy.

The Personnel Committee reviewed and updated the Personnel Policy in July. Updates were clarifications in wording. The Continuing Education Committee reported that a scholarship of \$225 was awarded to Odessa Meyer of the South Sioux City Public Library for attendance at the Library Leadership Institute. The Technology Plan will be good until next year. Nominating Committee reported that three new officer positions will need to be filled for the coming term. New board members will be needed to represent a School Media Center position and one for Populations over 10,000. There was no Unfinished Business.

In New Business locations of meetings for 2011-12 was discussed. A Virtual meeting is being planned for one of the meetings. Following previous discussion at the May meeting, Judy made a motion that we use an online system newsletter instead of a print newsletter. (Hagan – 1M/Anderson -2M). Roll call vote was all aye. After much discussion regarding the Investment Policy, it was moved to appoint an ad hoc committee to review it more carefully. (Lofgren – 1M/Ageton – 2M). All aye. A motion was made to approve a 1% raise in salary for Shelia Cermak, Administrative Assistant. (Lofgren – 1M/Ageton – 2M). All aye. Dee Johnson made a motion to accept the budget for 2011-12 as presented. (Johnson - 1M/Baumert – 2M). Roll call vote was all aye.

After member news was shared, three Pat on the Backs were awarded. All recipients are from the Ne-ligh Public Library. They are Steve Christensen, board president; Bob Rotherham, president of the foundation; and Dale Wilkenson, from the town council, for care of the landscaping at the library. Michele Hastreiter made a motion to pay the claims of the day. (Hastreiter – 1M/Stahlecker – 2M). Roll call vote was all aye. A motion was made to adjourn. (Stahlecker – 1M/Klein – 2M). All aye.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jolene Klein,  
Secretary

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Website: <http://libraries.ne.gov/nels>



Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make  
reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him.

~Maya Angelou

The Northeast Library System serves the counties of Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Butler, Cedar, Colfax,  
Dakota, Dixon, Holt, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Pierce, Platte, Polk,  
Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.

***Straight Talk*** is published 6  
times per year by the  
Northeast Library System.

Please contact  
Jessica Chamberlain  
or Shelia Cermak  
at the Northeast Library  
System Office  
with any questions  
or concerns.

Jessica Chamberlain, editor

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### Our NELS Board Members

Joyce Sullivan, Elgin Public Library  
Michele Hastreiter, Humphrey Public Library  
Elaine Tobias, Pilger Public Library  
Melissa Baumert, Clarkson Public Library  
Dawnn Tucker, Lied Pierce Public Library  
Kate Ostenrude - President, Neligh Public Library  
Tami Anderson, Hartington Public Library  
Judy Hagan, Atkinson Public Library  
Kathy Ageton, Lutheran High Northeast, Norfolk  
Sally Stahlecker - Vice President, Norfolk Public Library  
Beth Foulks, Ponca Public Schools  
Jolene Klein - Secretary, Wakefield Community Schools  
Susan Tyndall, Nebraska Indian Community College